

HALL COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING APRIL 4, 2006

The Hall County Board of Supervisors met April 4, 2006, by published call in the county board meeting room, 121 South Pine, Grand Island.

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by Chairman James Eriksen.

INVOCATION - Invocation was given by Chairman Eriksen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – The Pledge of Allegiance was given in unison.

ROLL CALL - Present on roll call were, Scott Arnold Jim Eriksen, Richard Hartman, Bob Humiston, Bud Jeffries, Pamela Lancaster and Robert Rye. Also present was a representative from the *Grand Island Independent* and Deputy County Attorney Michelle Oldham and County Attorney Mark Young.

CONSENT AGENDA – Lancaster made a motion and Jeffries seconded to approve the following by consent agenda.

1. 1b Approved Resolution 06-0019 the April Child Abuse Proclamation
2. 8 Approved the appointment of Kenneth Brandt to the Veterans Service Committee
3. 9 Approved the special designated liquor license for Mid Nebraska Speed Way
4. 10a Approve the Resolution #06-0020 for Exchange of Collateral for Five Points Bank in the amount of \$440,000.00
5. 10b Approved Resolution 06-0021 for additional collateral from Home Federal in the amount of \$200,000.00
6. 10c Approved Resolution 06-0022 for the exchange of collateral from the State Bank of Cairo in the amount of \$300,000.00
7. 11a Receive and place on file the keno audit for quarter ending December 31, 2005
8. 11b Receive and place on file the Hall County audit for year ending June 30, 2005
9. 15 Receive and place on file the communications from Regional Planning
10. 16 Approved the bi weekly pay claims and authorized the clerk to pay
11. 18 Accepted and placed on file the Hall County Treasurer Report of public tax sales for 2004 real estate taxes
12. 23 Accept and place on file the office reports of the Register of Deeds and County Clerk
13. 24 Accept and place on file the Hall County Treasurer's Miscellaneous Receipts
14. 25 Accept and place on file communications as received

Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

County Clerk Marla Conley read the Child Abuse Proclamation. Representatives from the Crisis Center distributed "Blue Ribbons"

1a SENIOR CITIZENS INDUSTRIES UPDATE ON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION – Louis Steinke, Bob Sorensen and Jackie Pielstick with the Senior Citizens were present. They wanted to update the board regarding the handi bus program. Louis Steinke provided information to the board members on the 2005 2006 fiscal year regarding the cab tickets and the number of riders that use the handi buses. Ms. Steinke stated that

there has been some discussion regarding changing the handi bus system but she stated they have a good system and provide a good service to the public. The drivers are dedicated to serving the public and she invited the Supervisors to ride the buses and observe the system. She also noted that there may be additional federal dollars available and if so they will take advantage of that. They also looked at the system that Kearney uses, but it is a very expensive computer system.

Jeffries noted that he has never heard any complaints on the handi bus system and the cab tickets are also available to help with transportation needs. He wants to continue to support the handi bus system.

Lancaster noted that a committee was formed to address the needs of public transportation. Senior Citizens have provided public transportation as needed. They receive money from the State and Hall County provides matching funds. The Center has applied for funding to replace one bus a year. She also noted that the federal government has increased the dollars available by 50% this year.

Bob Sorensen was present and he also sits on the Senior Citizen Board. He stated that the busses cover transportation needs from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and the agreement for the cab tickets cover outside these hours. He noted that many of the churches have their own transportation. Society has changed, people own more cars. He stated that he does not feel that the system needs to be changed now; if the population reaches 50,000 in the City then it will need to be addressed. The center works hard and provides a good service.

Jackie Pielstick stated that she is the secretary for the Senior Citizens Board and she also sits on the transportation committee. She stated that they want to keep the board updated on what they are doing.

9:30 A.M. PUBLIC HEARING ONE & SIX ROAD PROGRAM – Lancaster made a motion and Arnold seconded to open the public hearing. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

County Surveyor Casey Sherlock was present. He stated that the 1 & 6 was presented to the Regional Planning Commission and they approved it.

Mr. Sherlock stated that his focus in the plan will be on maintenance of the paved roads and on some of the bridges that may be dangerous. He is proposing to hard surface 3 miles of 1R Road and the right-of-way plans are complete but it could be several years out before it is completed because of the federal funding. He also noted that on the South Locust project it will be best to grade the remaining 3 miles. This would be necessary before any hard surfacing could be done and then it would be ready for paving when the funds are available.

Mr. Sherlock reviewed the proposed bridge projects. He stated that some of these bridges are 50 to 70 years old and are a potential area for a dangerous situation. Hartman questioned if the bridges were inspected why they need to be replaced now.

Lancaster made a motion and Arnold seconded to close the public hearing. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

Jeffries made a motion and Arnold seconded to approve Resolution #06-0018 approving the One & Six Year Road Plan. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

2a DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ISSUING DEVELOPMENT REVENUE BONDS FOR FINANCING HEARTLAND EVENTS CENTER – Deputy County Attorney Michelle Oldham stated that she has been working with Brad Fegley and a number of the local banks. In May of 2005 the county approved the resolution for the 2% increase in the lodging tax that is to be used for the construction of the Heartland Events Center. This tax was to be collected for 5 years. The audit committee also met regarding this issue. They have estimated that there should be about 2.3 million dollars of revenue generated from the tax. The local banks will fund the bonds and the bonds will be paid back from the tax that is collected. Hartman noted that this is a like a loan from the banks until the tax is all collected.

Lancaster made a motion and Jeffries seconded to approve Resolution #06-0023 for the intent to authorize the industrial development revenue bonds for the Heartland Events Center. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

2b DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH WOOD RIVER FOR CONSTRUCTION OF GRAVEL ROAD – Casey Sherlock was present and he stated that the public works committee has discussed this issue. The proposed ethanol plant would require that a portion of this road would need to be closed and an alternate route would be necessary. The funds to construct this will come from the State. \$5,000.00 for the Nebraska Department of Road to close the crossing at 150th Road, \$5,000.00 for Union Pacific Railroad to close the crossing at 150th Road and \$12,000.00 from the Nebraska Department of Road for the construction. The County Public Works Department would build the road and maintain it and the City of Wood River will provide the supplies to maintain the road. If the plant is not constructed the road would not be built.

Jeffries made a motion and Rye seconded to approve Resolution #06-0024 and approve the interlocal agreement. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

Concern was expressed if the plant was going to be built and Hartman stated that the plant will be constructed. Lancaster questioned if it was a safety issue that the crossing had to be closed but Mr. Sherlock stated that the primary reason is that the crossings will be blocked.

2c TERMINATION OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR JOINT SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS TEAM- This is the interlocal agreement between the City of Grand Island and Hall County for the SWAT team. The police and sheriff departments want to terminate this agreement and can do so with written notice. The Nebraska State Patrol provides this service. The City has sent written notice of termination.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Greg Senkbile from Central City, Nebraska, came forward. He stated that he is running for the 34th Legislative District and would appreciate the support.

Scott Arnold introduced Howard Hasset the new County Facilities Director. Mr. Hasset started yesterday.

5c DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL OF SALE OF MOTOR GRADER – County Surveyor Casey Sherlock was present he stated that has discussed with his committee purchasing two motor graders this fiscal and disposing of the New Holland grader. He has not discussed this with Mr. Hartman. The New Holland grader has not performed as it should have and he has tried to trade it in but the trade in amount was low. He would like to dispose of this grader and get what he can to use the proceeds to purchase another grader. Discussion was held on the estimated sale price. Mr. Sherlock stated he did not want to make this known because he will have to accept sealed bids for the sale. Arnold noted that the grader was not used during the last snow storm. Discussion was held to address this at budget time. Mr. Sherlock stated he would like to purchase the graders this year and there is some interest if he were to sell the grader outright. Hartman expressed concern that they may not like the machine so they do not use it.

Jeffries made a motion and Arnold seconded to authorize the sale of the motor grader and accept sealed bids. The bids will be accepted at the Public Works Department until 5:00 p.m. on March 17th and the bids will be opened on Tuesday, April 18, 2006, at 10:15 a.m. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

7 10:15 A.M. PUBLIC HEARING TO PURCHASE HANDI BUS THROUGH FTA PROJECT NO. RPTC401(026) - Jeffries made a motion and Lancaster seconded to open the public hearing. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

Chairman Eriksen called for public participation.

Lancaster noted that is a 20% match of \$7,879.00 for the purchase of this new bus. Arnold and Jeffries noted that these busses are an excellent value for the Senior Citizen Center. The documents have been approved and signed but it is necessary to hold the public according to the Federal Transit Act.

Jeffries made a motion and Lancaster seconded to close the public hearing. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

Lancaster noted that the public transportation issue as a whole had been discussed. Once the City population reaches 50,000 it will no longer be considered rural public transportation and the system might be changed. Arnold noted that it is important to protect the services that the seniors and handicap receive. They do not want to sacrifice the services that we currently have.

No further action was necessary.

6 DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER – This agreement was discussed by the City and County at the March 7th meeting. Deputy County Attorney Michelle Oldham presented the interlocal agreement and the resolution for the board's approval, if acceptable.

Lancaster stated that she has concern on the cost of the shared driveway and how this is to be paid. She would like to see this paid in portions and this has not been decided. She suggested that the terms of payment should be added to the resolution. Ms. Oldham stated that if it was added to the resolution it would not be binding because the interlocal agreement would not be changed. She suggested executing the interlocal agreement and negotiating the terms of repayment. Arnold expressed concern on delaying the interlocal agreement any longer. Jeffries agreed that the agreement needs to be approved.

Lancaster made a motion and Arnold seconded to approve Resolution #06 0025 Approve an interlocal agreement for the co-located City/County Public Safety Center between the County of Hall and the City of Grand Island. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

6a DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AUTHORIZE CHAIR TO SIGN WARRANTY DEED CONVEYING REAL ESTATE TO THE CITY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SAFETY CENTER – Ms. Oldham stated that this will transfer the property where the safety center is to be built to the City of Grand Island.

Lancaster made a motion and Jeffries seconded to approve Resolution #06-0026 to approve the sale of real estate to the City of Grand Island for the City/County Safety Center. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

12 DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON LEGISLATIVE BILLS – Stacey Ruzicka provide the board members with updates on the bills. She noted that LB 915, LB 898 and LB 904 were scheduled for final reading on April 3. Both of the inheritance tax bills were indefinitely postponed and the eminent domain bills are still sitting in committee.

19 BARB ERNST AND SCOTT DUGAN WITH MID PLAINS CENTER FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON JUVENILE COUNTY AID GRANT – Barb Ernst, Scott Dugan and Juvenile Diversion Director Troy Chandler were present regarding the two grants. Mr. Chandler stated that Hall County completed the 3-year juvenile comprehensive plan so we are eligible for the Nebraska Crime Commission LB 640 funds. There are two grants through LB 640, the first one is for \$23,619.00 to partially fund a full time position for the juvenile diversion office and the second grant is for Operation Impact for a school intervention worker, who will address academic and behavior issues, for Wood River, Doniphan, Cedar Hollow and 1R Schools. This grant is for a Juvenile Accountability Probation Intake Officer (JA/PIO) they have allocated \$2,314.00 for travel expenses \$3,450.00 for supplies, \$1,543.00 for equipment, \$3,000.00 for electronic monitoring and \$1,200.00 for scholarships. Discussion was held why all of the rural schools did not participate but some of the schools did not have need for these services.

Arnold made a motion and Lancaster seconded to approve the Enhancement Grant and the JA/PIO Grant and authorize the chair to sign. Arnold noted that the County

completed the juvenile survey so we have qualified for these grant dollars. Rye noted these are critical services and appreciates that they have worked together.

The vote on the motion to approve the grants and authorize the Chair to sign was taken. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

17 DISCUSS AND APPROVE DESIGN DEVELOPMENT DRAWINGS AND APPROVE DLR MOVING TO THE CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENT PHASE – Lancaster stated this letter authorizes DLR Group to proceed to the Construction Document phase of the project. She stated that Interim Director Jimmy Vann, Paul Wagner and Brian Henke have worked with DLR to review the each page of the construction plans. This will save change orders once the construction starts. They have addressed one issues on the utilities and worked out the details. Deputy County Attorney Michelle Oldham has reviewed the documents. They will come back to the board on May 2 with an entire update.

Lancaster made a motion and Jeffries seconded to approve the documents and move to the construction phase and authorize signing the letter. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

Held a Board of Equalization meeting.

20 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – 20 a DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR CENTRAL NEBRASKA RADIO INTEROPERABILITY GROUP - Deputy County Attorney Michelle Oldham stated that there are only two of the items that can be addressed at this time. The interlocal agreement for the Central Nebraska Radio Interoperability Group CNRI was discussed at the meeting. This is a radio communications system that allows all of the agencies to communicate with each entity. There are federal dollars available since 9 11. This allows all parties to communicate together in the event of an emergency.

Rye made a motion and Arnold seconded to authorize the chair to sign the interlocal agreement for the Central Nebraska Radio Interoperability Group. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

20c DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING REGARDING HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT FUNDING – This agreement is between the State of Nebraska Emergency Management Agency and the Grand Island/Hall County Emergency Agency and Hall County. This allows the Homeland Security Grant Funds grant #2005-GE-T5-0020 to be used. NEMA will provide training and exercise support in Hall County using the funds.

Lancaster made a motion and Arnold seconded to approve the Memorandum of Understanding and authorize the Chair to sign. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

20b Discuss and take action on Interlocal Agreement between the City of Grand Island and the County of Hall for the Emergency Management/Communications Center

20d Discuss and take action on Non-Disclosure Agreement between GEOCOM Inc and Grand Island Hall County 911 Center. Ms Oldham stated that these two items will need to be tabled until the next meeting.

13 EXECUTIVE SESSION PERSONNEL CORRECTIONS STEERING COMMITTEE – Lancaster made a motion and Humiston seconded to go into executive session. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

11:20 a.m. executive session

12:03 p.m. Hartman made a motion and Jeffries seconded to go out of executive session. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

Arnold made a motion and Lancaster seconded to hire Gerard Ruiz as the senior interim corrections director at 50% of the correction director's salary. This will be a part time position effective April 5, 2006. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

Arnold made a motion and Lancaster seconded to increase the salary for Jimmy Vann as the junior interim corrections director \$200.00 per pay period for the duration of the vacancy until such time when a permanent corrections director is hired. The salary of Holly Plejdrup will be increased an additional \$125.00 per pay period until a permanent corrections director is hired. This additional pay is retroactive from March 7th for Mr. Vann and Ms. Plejdrup.

Jeffries suggested that a letter should be sent to these employees stating when the extra duties will start and end. This could be signed by the corrections committee.

Arnold amended his motion and Lancaster seconded to send a letter to the employees stating when the extra duties and additional pay will start and end. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

21. DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION ON SPECIAL AUDIT FOR DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS – Jeffries made a motion and Lancaster seconded to authorize the Chair to sign the letter of engagement with McDermott and Miller for a special audit for the Corrections Department. Arnold, Eriksen Hartman, Humiston, Jeffries. Lancaster and Rye all voted yes and none voted no. Motion carried.

Discussion was held if there should have been a special audit for the Building & Grounds Department. This will be discussed and the committee will come forward with a recommendation.

26 BOARD MEMBER'S REPORTS - Rye – no reports

Jeffries – He reported that he received a report from Stuhr Museum regarding the repair work that they are proposing for the main building at the museum. The booklet details the proposed projects.

Arnold – His were all reported on.

Hartman – He noted that there was no need for an investigation on Mid Nebraska.

Humiston – He attended the South Central Economic Development District meeting and there will be more information coming.

Lancaster – She noted that the booklet from Stuhr Museum included 3 pages of consultant reports.

Eriksen – He reported that he attended Legislative Day in Lincoln and the Central District meeting in Aurora and the Children's Ground Water Festival. He stated that Jason Clancy with NIRMA has prepared a new model safety manual and is asking that the county review this model and incorporate this in the county safety manual. Mr. Clancy has requested to talk to the County Board but this needed to go to the Safety Committee for review and then it can come to the board to review. He also stated that he attended the Multi-Cultural Coalition leadership program; this will be a meeting program involving the schools, City and County.

NEW OR UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Chairman Eriksen called for new or unfinished business and no one responded.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m. The next meeting will be April 18 at 9:00 a.m.

Marla J. Conley Hall County Clerk